



## **For Immediate Release**

February 11, 2021

Contact:

Terry Martin, Sanitary Engineer

Talbot County Department of Public Works

(410) 770-8170

### **SEWAGE SPILL ON EDGE CREEK ROAD, ROYAL OAK, MARYLAND**

On Thursday, February 11, 2021 at approximately 7:00 a.m. the Talbot County Sanitary District was notified that there was a possible leak in the low pressure sewer system installed along Edge Creek Road in Royal Oak. Following the notification, at approximately 8:30 a.m. Talbot County Sanitary District personnel were able to close valves in the system to isolate the suspected leak, and the ditch next to the leak was pumped out. At approximately 11:00 a.m., the contractor arrived and the area above the leak was excavated to the pipe; the leak was then located and repaired. The sewage spill was reported to the Environmental Health office at 10:00 a.m., and was reported to the Maryland Department of the Environment at approximately 10:25 a.m. An estimated 8,000 gallons of partially treated sewage was discharged into an adjacent roadside drainage ditch and no navigable or shellfish harvesting waters were impacted.

After the work was completed, Talbot County Sanitary District staff spread lime on the ground in the area impacted by the discharge to kill any pathogens that may have been present. A 5-day follow-up report will be filed with Maryland Department of the Environment by the Sanitary District.

The Talbot County Health Department's Office of Environmental Health assisted with the investigation of the discharge and determined that due to the amount of partially treated sewage and the distance to navigable waters there was low to minimal impact to public health and the environment. If the public has any questions regarding the public health determination they may contact Anne Morse, Director of Environmental Health at 410-770-6880 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or after hours by contacting the Talbot County Operations Center at 410-822-0095. The Operations Center will contact the Environmental Health Specialist on call. If the public has questions regarding the discharge or the corrective action that was taken they may contact Terry Martin, Sanitary Engineer at 410-770-8170.